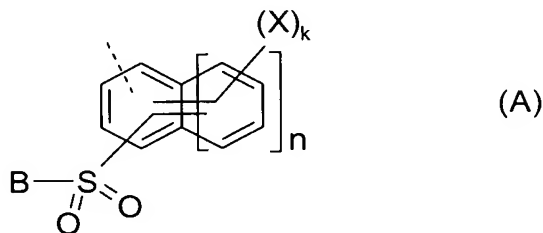


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 (Currently Amended): A process for dyeing leather, comprising contacting said leather with a float that comprises at least one dye F which has at least one group represented by formula A:



where

----- denotes the bond to the dye molecule;

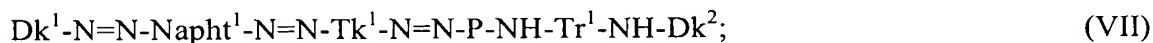
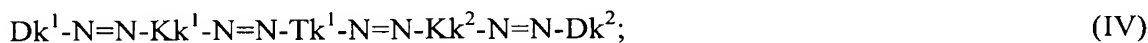
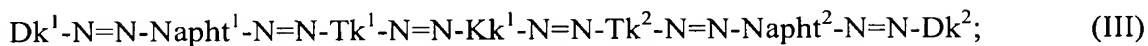
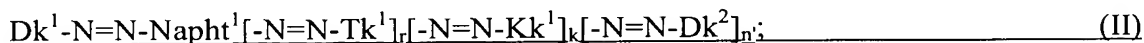
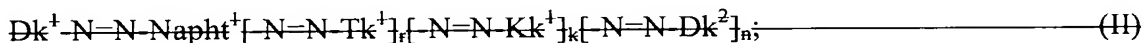
X is an electron-attracting radical;

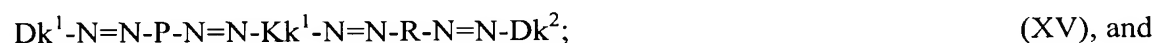
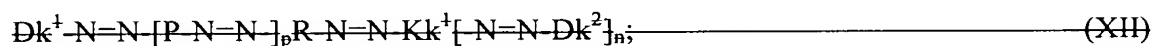
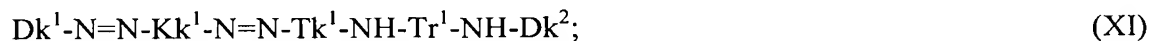
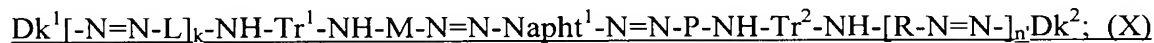
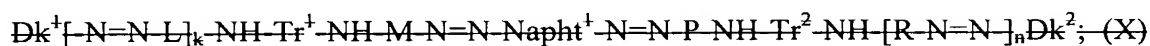
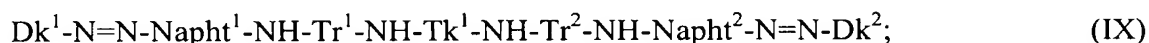
k is 1, 2 or 3;

n is 0 or 1; and

B is a CH=CH<sub>2</sub> group or a CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-Q group, where Q is an alkaline-detachable group, wherein said float exhibits a pH of from 8.5 to 11, and wherein

said at least one dye is selected from the group consisting of





a metal complex thereof,

where

$k$ ,  $n$ ,  $p$  and  $r$  are independently 0 or 1, and for formula II,  $k+n+r$  is 1, 2 or 3;

$m$  is 0, 1 or 2;

each of  $Dk^1$  and  $Dk^2$  independently represents an aromatic amine radical or represents a group of formula A where, in each of the formulae I - XII and XV, at least one of  $Dk^1$  and  $Dk^2$  represents a radical of formula A;

each of  $Kk^1$  and  $Kk^2$  independently represents a monovalent, a divalent or a trivalent aromatic radical selected from the group consisting of benzene; naphthalene; pyrazole; quinoline; diphenylamine; diphenylmethane; pyrimidine; pyridine; and diphenyl ether, where each optionally has at least one substituent selected from the group consisting

$SO_3H$ ,  $COOH$ ,  $CN$ ,  $CONH_2$ ,  $OH$ ,  $NH_2$ ,  $NO_2$ , halogen,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -hydroxyalkyl, carboxy- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylamino,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -dialkylamino,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -dialkylaminocarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -

alkylcarbonylamino, N-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl)-N-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl)amino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-dialkylaminocarbonyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-dialkylaminocarbonylamino, phenylaminocarbonyloxy, phenylaminocarbonylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-hydroxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, carboxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, phenylcarbonylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminosulfonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonylamino, phenylsulfonyl, phenylsulfonylamino, formamide, and a radical represented by formula SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>56</sup>R<sup>57</sup>,

where each of R<sup>56</sup> and R<sup>57</sup> independently represent hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl; formyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyloxycarbonyl; NH<sub>2</sub>-CO-alkylaminocarbonyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminosulfonylamino; di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminosulfonylamino; phenylsulfonylamino which may be substituted on the phenyl ring by 1 or 2 substituents selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy and halogen; or a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclyl, which is optionally substituted by 1, 2 or 3 radicals selected from the group consisting of OH, halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-phenyl, and a 5-membered aromatic heterocyclyl optionally bearing on the nitrogen a phenyl or naphthyl group which can optionally have 1 or 2 radicals selected from the group consisting of OH, SO<sub>3</sub>H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy;

Kk<sup>3</sup> is a monovalent radical selected from the group consisting of benzene, pyrimidine, pyridine, and naphthalene, which optionally has

1 or 2 hydroxysulfonyl groups as substituents,

and optionally 1, 2 or 3 further substituents selected from the group consisting of SO<sub>3</sub>H, COOH, CN, CONH<sub>2</sub>, OH, NH<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-hydroxyalkyl, carboxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-dialkylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-dialkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonylamino, N-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl)-N-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl)amino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-dialkylaminocarbonyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-dialkylaminocarbonylamino, phenylaminocarbonyloxy, phenylaminocarbonylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-hydroxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, carboxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, phenylcarbonylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminosulfonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonylamino, phenylsulfonyl, phenylsulfonylamino, formamide, and a radical of the formula SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>56</sup>R<sup>57</sup>,

where R<sup>56</sup> and R<sup>57</sup> independently represent hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl; formyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl; NH<sub>2</sub>-CO-alkylaminocarbonyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminosulfonylamino; di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminosulfonylamino; phenylsulfonylamino which may be substituted on the phenyl ring by 1 or 2 substituents selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy and halogen; or a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclyl, which is optionally substituted by 1, 2 or 3 radicals selected from the group consisting of OH, halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-phenyl, and a 5-membered aromatic heterocyclyl optionally bearing on the nitrogen a phenyl or naphthyl group which can optionally comprise 1 or 2 radicals selected from the group consisting of OH, SO<sub>3</sub>H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy;

each of Tk<sup>1</sup> and Tk<sup>2</sup> independently represents a divalent aromatic radical selected from ~~the~~  
the group consisting of benzene, diphenylamine, biphenyl, diphenylmethane,  
2-phenylbenzimidazole, phenylsulfonylbenzene, phenylaminosulfonylbenzene,  
stilbene and phenylaminocarbonylbenzene, where each optionally has at least one  
substituent selected from the group consisting of SO<sub>3</sub>H, COOH, OH, NH<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>,  
halogen, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl;

each of L, M, P and R independently represents a divalent aromatic radical selected from the  
group consisting of benzene and naphthalene, where each optionally has at least one  
substituent selected from the group consisting of SO<sub>3</sub>H, COOH, CN, CONH<sub>2</sub>, OH,  
NH<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-hydroxyalkyl, carboxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl,  
C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-dialkylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-  
C<sub>4</sub>-dialkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonylamino, N-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl)-N-  
(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl)amino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-  
dialkylaminocarbonyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-  
dialkylaminocarbonylamino, phenylaminocarbonyloxy, phenylaminocarbonylamino,  
C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-hydroxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, carboxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-  
alkylamino, phenylcarbonylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, hydroxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonyl,  
C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminosulfonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonylamino, phenylsulfonyl,  
phenylsulfonylamino, formamide, and a radical of the formula SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>56</sup>R<sup>57</sup>,

where R<sup>56</sup> and R<sup>57</sup> independently represent hydrogen; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl; formyl;  
C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl; NH<sub>2</sub>-CO-alkylaminocarbonyl;  
C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl; C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminosulfonylamino; di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-  
alkylaminosulfonylamino; phenylsulfonylamino which may be substituted on  
the phenyl ring by 1 or 2 substituents selected from the group consisting of  
C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy and halogen; or 5- or 6-membered heterocyclyl,

which is optionally substituted by 1, 2 or 3 radicals selected from the group consisting of OH, halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, phenyl, and a 5-membered aromatic heterocyclyl optionally bearing on the nitrogen a phenyl or naphthyl group which can optionally have 1 or 2 of radicals selected from the group consisting of OH, SO<sub>3</sub>H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy;

Napht<sup>1</sup>, Napht<sup>2</sup> independently represent a naphthalene radical having 1 or 2 hydroxysulfonyl groups and may optionally have 1, 2 or 3 further substituents selected from the group consisting of OH, NH<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-dialkylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonylamino, phenylsulfonylamino, 4-methylphenylsulfonylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminosulfonyl, di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminosulfonyl, phenylaminosulfonyl, 4-methylphenylaminosulfonyl, and a NHC(O)R<sup>x</sup> radical, where R<sup>x</sup> hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, maleyl or phenyl;

Pyr represents pyrazole-1,4-diyl which attaches through the nitrogen atom to the A group and optionally has 1 or 2 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, hydroxyl and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy; and

Tr<sup>1</sup>, Tr<sup>2</sup> independently represent a 1,3,5-triazine-2,4-diyl radical which optionally has at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, a methyl group and a methoxy group.

2 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein at least one radical X in the formula A is an SO<sub>3</sub>H group.

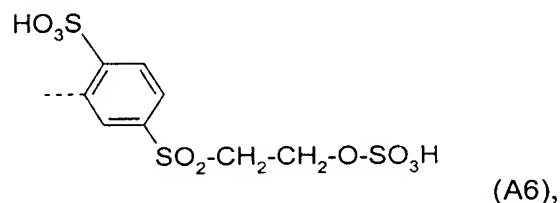
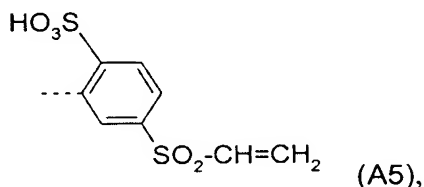
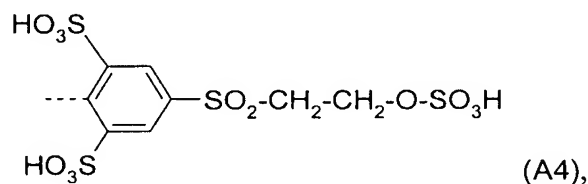
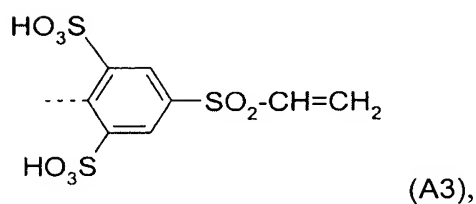
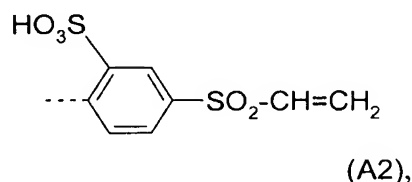
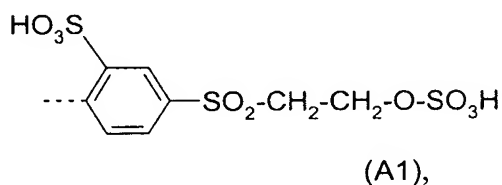
3 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein B in the formula A is CH=CH<sub>2</sub>, a CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-O-SO<sub>3</sub>H group or a CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-O-C(O)CH<sub>3</sub> group.

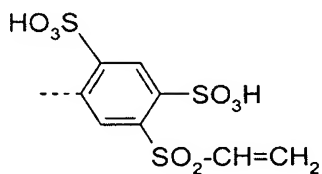
4 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein the group represented by formula A is attached to the dye molecule via an -NH- or -N=N- group.

5 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 4, wherein the at least one dye F is selected from the group consisting of a phthalocyanine dye, an anthraquinone dye, an azo dye, a formazan dye, a dioxazine dye, an actidine dye, a xanthene dye, a polymethine dye, a stilbene dye, a sulfur dye and a triarylmethane dye.

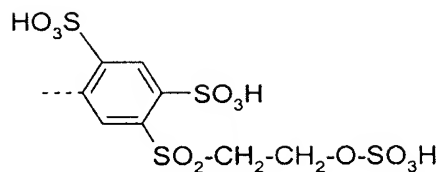
6 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein n is 0.

7 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 6, wherein the at least one group represented by formula A is selected from the group consisting of:

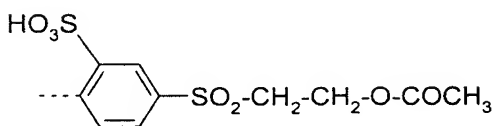




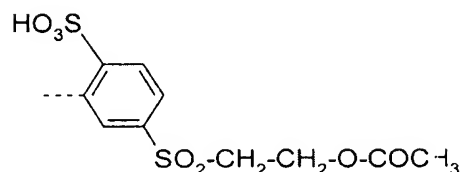
(A7),



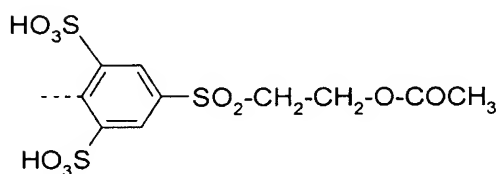
(A8),



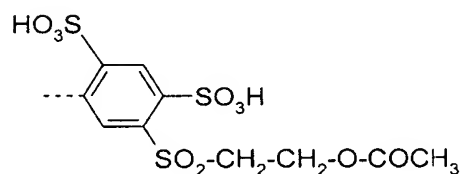
(A9),



(A10),



(A11), and



(A12).

8 (Cancelled)

9 (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 1, which further comprises initially treating the leather with ~~the~~ an aqueous float comprising at least one dye F at a pH in the range from 3 to 6.5 prior to said ~~treating~~ contacting.

10 (Cancelled)

11 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein the dyeing occurs before retanning.

12 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein the dyeing occurs at temperatures in the range from 10 to 60°C.



13-18 (Cancelled)

19 (Previously Presented): A dyed leather obtainable by a dyeing process according to claim 1.

20 (Previously Presented): The dyed leather according to Claim 19 for handwear, footwear, automobiles, apparel or furniture.

21-23 (Cancelled)

24 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein said float exhibits a pH of from 8.5 to 10.5.

25 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein said float exhibits a pH of from 8.5 to 10.

26 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein said float exhibits a pH of from 9.5 to 11.

27 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 26, occurring for a time of from 0.5 to 2 hours.

28 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein when said contacting is carried out for four hours, said at least one dye exhibits a fixation to said leather of at least 85%, as determined by UV/VIS spectroscopy and HPLC.

29 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein when said contacting is carried out for four hours, said at least one dye exhibits a fixation to said leather of at least 90%, as determined by UV/VIS spectroscopy and HPLC.

30 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 1, wherein Q is selected from the group consisting of chlorine; bromine; iodine;  $-\text{O}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ;  $-\text{S}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ; tri- $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_4$ -alkylammonium; benzyldi- $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_4$ -alkylammonium; N-attached pyridinium;  $\text{R}^3\text{S}(\text{O})_2-$ ;  $\text{R}^4\text{S}(\text{O})_2-\text{O}-$ ; and  $\text{R}^5\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{O}-$ , where

each of  $\text{R}^3$  and  $\text{R}^4$  is independently an alkyl group, a haloalkyl group, a phenyl group, or a substituted phenyl group, and

$\text{R}^5$  is a hydrogen, an alkyl group, a haloalkyl group, a phenyl group, or a substituted phenyl group.

31 (New): The process according to claim 1, wherein n in the group represented by formula A is 1.

32 (New): The process according to claim 31, wherein B in the formula A is  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ , a  $\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$  group or a  $\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{CH}_3$  group.

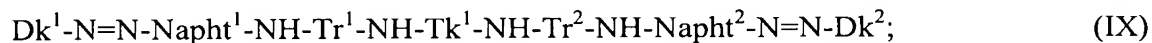
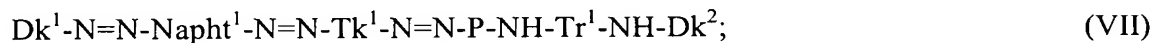
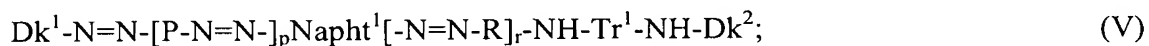
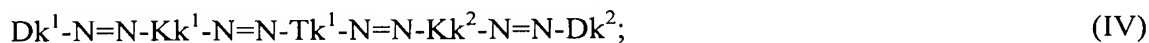
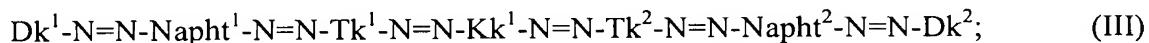
33 (New): The process according to claim 1, wherein  $\text{Dk}^1$  and  $\text{Dk}^2$  are independently of each other selected from the group consisting of benzene-, naphthalene- and quinoline-derived radicals and 1-phenylpyrazol-4-yl which are unsubstituted or comprise 1, 2 or 3, substituents selected from the group consisting of  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,  $\text{COOH}$ ,  $\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{NH}_2$ ,  $\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\text{CN}$ ,  $\text{CONH}_2$ , halogen,  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_4$ -alkyl,  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_4$ -hydroxyalkyl, carboxy- $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_4$ -alkyl,  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_4$ -alkoxy,  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_4$ -alkylamino,  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_4$ -dialkylamino,  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl,

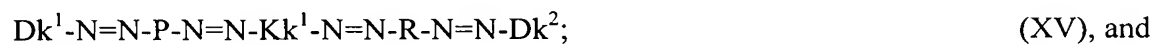
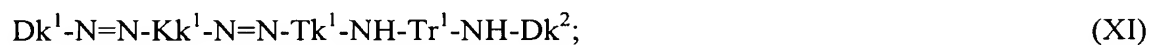
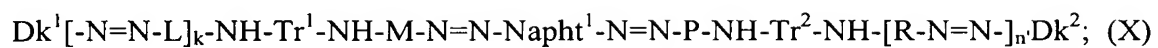
C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-dialkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-dialkylamino-carbonyloxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-dialkylaminocarbonylamino, phenylaminocarbonyloxy, phenylaminocarbonylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonylamino, N-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl)-N-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl)amino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-hydroxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, carboxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, phenylcarbonylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-hydroxyalkylsulfonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminosulfonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonylamino, phenylsulfonyl, phenylsulfonylamino, formamide, and SO<sub>2</sub>NR<sup>56</sup>R<sup>57</sup>, where

R<sup>56</sup> and R<sup>57</sup> independently represent hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, formyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, NH<sub>2</sub>-CO, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl or 5- or 6-membered heterocyclyl, which is optionally substituted by 1, 2 or 3 of OH, halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl or phenyl radicals,

5-membered aromatic heterocyclyl optionally bearing on the nitrogen a phenyl or naphthyl group which phenyl or naphthyl group are unsubstituted or which comprise one or two of the following radicals: OH, SO<sub>3</sub>H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, and/or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy.

34 (New): The process according to claim 1, wherein said at least one dye is selected from the group consisting of





a metal complex thereof,

where k, n', p and r are independently 0 or 1, and m is 0, 1 or 2.